DI-5954 (BXTR 9004.6)

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-EXPEDITED PROCEDURE-TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1654

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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1-15. (Cancelled)

- 16. (Currently amended) A method of parenteral administration comprising administering a stable pharmaceutical composition to a patient by parenteral injection, wherein the composition comprises comprising erythropoietin and a peptide stabilizer selected from the group consisting of Gly-Gly, Gly-Gly-Gly, Gly-Tyr, Gly-Phe, Gly-His, Gly-Asp, Gly-Ala, Ala-Gly, Ala-Ala, derivatives thereof and mixtures thereof, and wherein the composition is free of serum albumin and the derivatives are acylated, fluorinated, alpha-keto or salt forms of said peptide stabilizers, or include nitro Phe or p-amino Phe in place of Phe, or cyclohexyl Ala in place of Ala.
 - 17. (Cancelled)
- 18. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 16, wherein the peptide stabilizer is a tripeptide.
 - 19. (Cancelled)
- 20. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> composition of claim 16, wherein the derivatives comprise salts of Gly-Gly, Gly-Gly, Gly-Gly, Gly-Tyr, Gly-Phe, Gly-His, Gly-Asp, Gly-Ala, Ala-Gly, and Ala-Ala.
- 21. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> composition of claim 16, wherein concentration of the peptide stabilizer in said composition is between about 0.01 g/L and about 10 g/L.
- 22. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> composition of claim 21, wherein the concentration of the peptide stabilizer is between about 0.5 g/L and about 5 g/L.

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- 23. (Cancelled)
- 24. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> composition of claim 16, wherein the erythropoietin is a recombinant erythropoietin.
- 25. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> composition of claim 24, wherein the recombinant erythropoietin is produced in BHK cells.
- 26. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> composition of claim 24, wherein the recombinant crythropoietin is produced in CHO cells.
- 27. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> composition of claim 24, wherein the recombinant erythropoietin is erythropoietin omega.
- 28. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> composition of claim 27, wherein concentration of erythropoietin omega in said composition is between about 500 IU/ml and about 100,000 IU/ml.
- 29. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> composition of claim 28, wherein the concentration of erythropoietin omega is between about 2,000 IU/ml and about 20,000 IU/ml.
- 30. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> composition of claim 16, wherein the composition further comprises a surfactant.
- 31. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> composition of claim 30, wherein the surfactant is a nonionic surfactant, cationic surfactant, anionic surfactant, amphoteric surfactant, zwitterionic surfactant, or a mixture thereof.
 - 32. (Cancelled).

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- 33. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> composition of claim 30, wherein concentration of the surfactant in said composition is between about 0.0005% w/v and about 0.5% w/v.
- 34. (Currently amended) A method of parenteral administration comprising administering a stable pharmaceutical composition to a patient by parenteral injection, wherein the composition comprises comprising erythropoietin, a polyoxyalkylene sorbitan fatty acid ester, and a peptide stabilizer selected from the group consisting of Gly-Gly, Gly-Gly, Gly-Tyr, Gly-Phe, Gly-His, Gly-Asp, Gly-Ala, Ala-Gly, Ala-Ala, derivatives thereof and mixtures thereof, and wherein the composition is free of serum albumin and the derivatives are acylated, fluorinated, alpha-keto or salt forms of said peptide stabilizers, or include nitro Phe or p-amino Phe in place of Phe, or cyclohexyl Ala in place of Ala.
- 35. (Currently amended) The <u>method</u> eomposition of claim 34, wherein the erythropoietin is erythropoietin omega.
 - 36. (Cancelled)
 - 37. (Cancelled)
- 38. (Withdrawn) A stable pharmaceutical composition comprising erythropoietin and a peptide stabilizer selected from the group consisting of tetrapeptides, pentapeptides, derivatives thereof and mixtures thereof, and wherein the composition is free of serum albumin.
- 39. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 38 wherein the composition is for administration by parenteral injection.
- 40. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 38 wherein the composition further comprises a polyoxyalkylene sorbitan fatty acid ester.